The A. F. of L. Weekly News Letter contains a brief summary of important matters affecting labor, occurring in the industrial, legislative, and judicial fields, and such other information that will benefit the trade union movement.

AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR

AGITATE! EDUCATE! ORGANIZE!

WEEKLY NEWS LETTER

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ORGANIZE! CLOSE UP RANKS!

BY PRESIDENT GOMPERS, IN AMERICAN FEDERATIONIST.

We are at the close of another year and the birth of another year. We have lived through a year of tremendous eventfulness and we face a year of solemn portent. During the year that is to come the issue, veiled in its essence, will be progress against reaction. At the close of 1920 the American Federation of Labor had an organization of 4,500,000 men and women. It is an organization of fighting spirit, ready for the struggle ahead.

The workers have need to be alert and militant, for never in the history of the American labor movement has plutocratic greed presented such an organized power to democratic progress.

We find at this moment, not one danger, but several. Centered in a propaganda which is profitable to those who conduct it, there is a movement under way to break down the organizations of the workers through the establishment of the non-union shop, miscalled by its sponsors the "open shop." This movement has for its aim the destruction of labor's voice, the destruction of joint relations between workers and employers, the destruction of the whole structure of collective bargaining and joint agreements which has brought so much of democracy into the industrial life of our people. There is further the effort to carry the affairs of industry into the realm of politics through the establishment of various kinds of governmental tribunals and boards, which aim to make real collective bargaining impossible, and to make the relations between workers and employers an endless litigation, the consequences of which would prove a disaster of the first magnitude.

Added to this is the heartless determination of many powerful employing interests to reduce wages and conditions of the workers entirely in many cases, resulting in great unemployment.

These are all issues that are before the workers of America. They are, in fact, issues that are before the whole people, but they are of primary importance to the workers because they affect more directly everything that makes for life and liberty in a democracy.

The great forces of reaction, of greed, of organized plutocracy, have chosen labor's vulnerable spot as the arena. This challenge is backed by the power of money, by the ever smiling countenance of moderation will serve to meet this brutal challenge. For this hour there is needed the stern spirit, the set features, the earnest will of the fighting man.

Selfishness does not know how to meet the spirit of millions standing together in unselfish devotion to principle for the common good. Greatness is attained only by selfishness. Therein lies the great hope of liberty and the power of the labor and rights and their extension.

The great American labor movement, organized for the protection of all workers and for the aggressive work of securing rights no longer denied, is the only instrumentality that can save the day for fundamental principles of liberty and democracy. The strength of the protest against the onslaughts of privilege must be the strength of the labor movement.

Therefore, men and women of labor, do that thing that is most feared by the reactionaries of all the world—organize into the trade union movement!

While you ponder among the clouds, wrapped in speculation, and dwelling among the possibilities of tomorrow, fear to the heart of tyranny, Organize into trade unions, multiply your power in terms of work, and you strengthen the cause of the weak and oppressed everywhere. The trade union movement is making progress and will make greater freedom faster than any movement of men and women anywhere. There is no movement so powerful to resist the invasion of rights. In spite of cajolery and flattery and treachery it goes on and on to greater heights, to great achievements.

At this hour of historic progress, let the workers of the world all together for another desperate effort against progress, should they work, people submit, should they do that which their enemies would have them do?

No, a thousand times no! In this hour, give hope to humanity, give life to cajolery and flattery, Grit your teeth and organize!

Greet the New Year with the confidence of men and women who serve the cause of humanity, armed with right and justice, seeking only the good of the great masses, and the cause of labor first. Tighten up the lines. Bring in the stragglers. Organize the toilers everywhere!

Labor, organized, is invincible. Be invincible! In defence of life, liberty, opportunity, freedom and democracy, be unbeatable!

Grit your teeth and organize!

BLACKLIST IS BASED ON GREED; IT HAS NO MORAL FOUNDATION.

Defenders of steel oligarchy "explain" this trust's refusal to sell its products to contractors who employ union labor.

"Steel owners have taken a leaf out of organized labor's book," they say. "Labor often refuses to work with non-unionists."

There is no comparison between the motives or the methods of organized labor and Garyism.

The blacklist operates secretly. The leader of this sinister band in the employ of steel is now under indictment in New York city because he refuses to acquaint a lawful commission with his trust connections.

The strike is open. It is subject to the white glare of publicity. The steel trust bases its blacklist on a desire for cheap labor, which means more profits.

The unionist strikes to hold his living standards. The fact that steel prefers non-unionists justify his fears that he cannot hold his gains and work with those who decline to aid him in maintaining wage scales and working conditions.

To the steel owner, less profits do not mean less milk and warm clothing for his babes and family, but that's what less wages mean to the worker.

To say there is similarity between steel's quest for profits and the unionist's refusal to work with non-unionists is to ignore morals, ethics and elemental justice.

Labor, organized, is a thing, merchandise, a commodity, as are ships, blast furnaces and railroads.

This is the far-flung cry of the Egyptian task master, the Roman slave holder and feudal lord.

Against this theory the unionist hurls his challenge of manhood: Labor power is inseparable from life.

A complete man must have intellect, will, spirit and physical strength. These, co-operated, mean labor power. He who controls labor power owns the man.

To live, to be free, workers must control their labor power, themselves. To permit others to do so, is to surrender every aspiration for a complete life.

Steel and its kind demand this control, although they are less Pharaoh's than the ancients.

Organized labor denies this control, and around the difference can be traced the opposition of Garyism to trade unionism.

Agitate! Educate! Organize!

REFUSE SCHOOL PROBE.

New York, Jan. 1.—After three refusals by the board of education to grant Dr. Henry R. Linville a leave of absence without pay, the educator has tendered his resignation as public school teacher.

Dr. Linville is president of the Teachers' union, which contemplates conducting a study of the New York public school system.

In his letter to the board, the educator said the conditions that should be inquired into would be unfavorably affected by administration and to teaching.

"We should know the sources of the views and the private propensional inspiration of our teachers," he said. "The study of these conditions in relation to the product, as shown in the output of our schools and in the quality of our citizenship, should give us important leads for fundamental changes. The support of this work will be met by the Teachers' union.

"The kind work you propose to do for the city of New York has never been undertaken, we believe, by any organization of teachers anywhere. Many surveys of school systems have been made with grants from Carnegie, Rockefeller and Sage foundations, as well as municipal expense. The purpose of these surveys has touched the human element but little, in defense of the democratic candidate for the governorship of Tennessee. True, the Hon. Ben Cox, with leader of the committee, drafted the transportation act, was retired to private life. Senator Cummins escaped defeat, but his majority was 200,000 votes, that of the republican governor was almost 40,000. The defeated democrat was a strong advocate of the league of nations. The governor-elect is a pronounced friend of unionism."

CRYING FOR COSSACKS.

Trenton, N. J., Jan. 1.—Manufacturing and business interests in this state will introduce bills, at the coming session of the legislature for a New Jersey constabulary, which will be armed with machine guns, if newspapers are molding a public opinion to this end.

The Trenton Times seizes upon the crime wave and declares that the cossacks will round up night prowlers.

It is clear that cossack friends will capitalize the hold up in cities and that they have abandoned forever any claims that the anti-trust laws should be enforced, that forfeit, fines should be lessened, that the attorney general's office be arrested and that the farmers should be protected from chiselers.

These business men, who gouge the farmer, now seem mightily interested in the horny handed son of toil.

NEED CO-OP. EDUCATION.

Grantford, Ontario, Jan. 1.—Co-operative education is an urgent need, says the Canadian Co-Operator, which attention to the failure of some officers of co-op. societies to grasp the philosophy of their Rochdale system of business conduct.

"We must emphasize the fact that the educational propaganda and publicity work of co-operators in society are quite as important as wise direction and good management of the business affairs. Capable, and adequate attention both to the business and the educational aspects will inevitably insure its success. The same will give to the movement a larger body of members who are co-operators by conviction."

SHIP YARDS PROFITEER.

New York, Jan. 1.—Charges of excessive and "exorbitant" costs made by American ship yards for repairs to vessels owned by the government and private firms were made by Commander R. D. Gatewood of the United States shipping board, at a meeting of ship owners in this city.

Excessive cost of repairs ranging as high as "250 per cent above the pre-war rate" is the speaker said, a serious handicap to the successful operation of an American merchant marine with foreign vessels. He appealed for co-operation of ship owners in efforts of the board to repair and construction department to bring these prices down to "reasonable" figures.

WOULD BAR STRIKES.

Denver, Jan. 1.—Employers in this state will ask the legislature to pass a "can't-strike" law along the lines the Kansas law, at the session of these Colorado employers is hoped. First they demanded legislation that would prohibit strikes until a state commission investigated. If this should fail in the legislature, they will ask that strikes be prohibited.

MAYOR MEDIATES.

San Francisco, Jan. 1.—Mayor Rolph is acting as mediator in the case of ferry boat workers and several railroad companies who are resisting wage demands of the vessel men.

CAPITALISTS ON STRIKE.

Chicago, Jan. 1.—"Organized capitalists, through their subsidized press," says President Perkins, of the Gear Makers' International union, "have made a strong effort to put labor in the limit of the public's favor. They howled all last spring and summer 'that labor is not producing.' They were horrified at the sight of a straw man of labor not constructing the much desired dire calamity for the nation, playing all the time to make labor the scapegoat.

"We now find that labor was producing, as it always does, more than was being consumed at the prices charged for its product.

"What happens now? Factories close their doors and employers absolutely refuse to negotiate. No attention is paid to the thousands of idle men and women who are facing the grim fact of their day's pay for the next day's bread. The press is sometimes used in a manner to convey the impression that the employer who 'refuses to produce,' Labor is told (in effect) in the same section in) wages before we can hope to reach 'normalcy.'

"It is to be hoped that we never reach normalcy, for that does not mean progress. When we attempt to reach a point some day where labor will not be the football of politics, we are going to reach a point where our business will not be allowed to make the profits by making goods produced under low-wage conditions at wage figures that seem cheap in the factory door in the face of labor rather than suffer the loss of a single penny when need of adjustment comes."

WANT REAL EDUCATION.

Everett, Wash. Jan. 1.—Teach our children to think in terms of humanity instead of dollars and cents was the keynote sounded by representatives of the central labor union committee on education. The committee also suggested:

"That children in the sixth grade and on be taught the constitution in regard to production or wealth. As, for instance, why the president is elected, who feed and clothe the world, and fill all store shelves with useful and beautiful things, have so few of these products.

"Not as a patriotic duty each teacher should each day read part of the preamble and constitution of the United States, as this is the fundamental principle of our government.

"That we ask our teachers everywhere to discourage militarism and war, as labor must fight, die, suffer, and starve and pay all accrued debts while a few pile up immense wealth."

TO PROTECT TEACHERS.

Wilmette, Ill., Jan. 1.—Protection of competent public school teachers against politicians on school boards will be included in the bill the Illinois Federation of Teachers.

"There can be little doubt," says President Stillman, "that tenure-of-office legislation is an essential, if not an essential, in order to carry out our primary purposes—to raise the standard of the teaching profession, to secure conditions essential to the best professional service.

"This subject calls for careful attention now, not only because of the arbitrary dismissal of competent teachers, but also because of the evident intention of certain school authorities to weaken or nullify the tenure provisions now in existence."

EXPOSE LEAD COMBINE.

New York, Jan. 1.—The building trust probe has exposed a combination of four paints and white lead manufacturers that control 35 per cent of this commodity. Next to white lead the principal ingredient of paint is linseed oil and the probers declare that they will not rest content with the paint combine. It was shown that the manufacturers have exchanged views on prices and competition was eliminated.

SPY CHIEF INDICTED.

New York, Jan. 1.—Robert J. Foster, chief of the spy system maintained by the National Erectors' association and other anti-union organizations of employers, was indicted by a grand jury. He refused to produce records of his spy activities on the ground that these records might incriminate him.

Foster has offices adjoining those of Senator Drew, attorney for the union busters.

TO FIGHT REACTION.

Springfield, Ill., Jan. 1.—The coming session of the state legislature will be marked by activities of labor in addition to secure the passage of anti-labor laws, which include the coal strike, labor unions will resist this plan and will also submit a series of constructive proposals.

ADOPT EIGHT-HOUR DAY.

Birmingham, Ala., Jan. 1.—Despite storms of protest by manufacturing interests, the city commissioners have voted that hereafter eight hours shall be the legal work day for municipal employes.

HAVE BATTLE SHIPS LOST THEIR VALUE?

London, England, Jan. 1.—One of the leading intellects of Great Britain is, "Will the future navy consist of battle ships?" Lord Scott, who charges that the grass plot lead to be guarded while small craft grappled with German submarine attacks on merchant ships.

Fear also exists in the organization to the London Times, says:

"Confidence in the battle ship, however, was badly shaken; how could it be otherwise when our fleets of our allies were impotent to help us and we were on the brink of disaster? Who can wonder that there is hesitation about the thought of rebuilding such an armada when the cost of each unit is risen at least fivefold, and, indeed, it is very much more, for the money is not of gold to assist and protect them?

"They want to know more exactly what functions are to be built for. To be told that they will be a navy for 'offense' and 'defense' is not sufficient, for we have just seen how little the quality of offense is a battle, and in the end won the war without it. It is time to make an examination into the whole science in the last war, with particular reference to the application of the capital ship, and to show that in the full light of that experience the ships now being demanded in the composition of our fleet.

"I am now going about to plead on holy ground, for the sanctity of the capital ship is ingrained in all who have spent their life on it."

DEFEND HIGH PRICES.

Aberdeen, Wash., Jan. 1.—The loyal legion of loggers and lumbermen, a powerful anti-labor body, in a wage out of $1 a day and then called a meeting of business men to discuss a reduction in their prices.

The company "union" was applauded by the business men for agreeing to work for $4 a day and declared organized labor is inducing prices by the war had made impossible. For present they accumulate a reserve fund of excess profits.

The "loyal legion" chiefs are wondering if they are believed to have accumulated a surplus. They are not willing that prices were controlled by the government.

NOISY BLUFFERS "CALLED."

London, England, Jan. 1.—Objectors to the recent strike settlement of railroad workers by the conciliation were put in a ridiculous light because of the resignation of Sidney Webb, president of the organization.

The conciliation was submitted to a referendum vote, with the following result: Against resignation, 2,667; for resignation, 46. It is stated that about one-fiftieth of the membership, 2,667 out of 150,000, is the barest indication of the strength of a group that talks revolution and is not willing to expend its cast their ballot at every election.

WHEAT GAMBLING MAY END.

Philadelphia, Jan. 1.—"Within two years there will be an organization that will have the power to fix a market that will kill speculation and treat the farmer fairly," said W. J. Spillman, president of the society of agriculture, in a speech in this city.

"In less than a year," the speaker declared, "the farmers will be organized and by co-operation. The only way for the farmer to solve his difficulties is to organize."

MORE FARMS MORTGAGED.

Montgomery, Ala., Jan. 1.—The number of farms mortgaged in this state. In 1910, 26.9 per cent of all farms operated by owners were mortgaged, and the figures for the last census show that 30.2 per cent of these farms has increased to 39.2-10.

The number of white farmers is 160,939, an increase of 5,000. There are 94,202 colored farmers include 17,205 owners.

LAUNDRY WORKERS ACTIVE.

Troy, N. Y., Jan. 1.—New locals are continually being formed by the Laundry Workers' International union, reports Harry L. Morrison, secretary of the local union. The international has 129 affiliates with a total membership of 7,000. The latest locals to be formed are in Oklahoma City, Reno, Nev., and Breckenridge, Texas.

BUTTON WORKERS UNITE.

Brookport, Ill., Jan. 1.—Button workers at this place have organized.

STATE CONSTABULARY URGED IN ILLINOIS

Chicago, Jan. 1.—Business interests have renewed their fight to establish the cossack system in Illinois, according to labor men. The most sinister ever brought to the notice of the people of the state," says the Weekly News Letter, issued by the Illinois state federation of labor. "Hearst editorials, the chief executives' association, the bankers and the commerce associations are feeding propaganda that is seeking the establishment of a 'black and tan' police force in Illinois. Every effort concerned only in providing better police protection in rural communities and on the country highways. The sudden interest displayed by these forces organizations in the business men in the alleged welfare of the farmers is sufficient to make the cause suspicion. It is a plain case of 'Greeks bearing gifts.' The real motive behind all this activity is to drive animal, bearing a military label, over the state. Such an organization will have any jurisdiction and which is to be organized primarily for strike duty, and for the intimidation in large numbers into not only industrial peonage but peaceful and intimidating working people who may be for strike but, also, for the class sections for service against the farmers when they come strike for the purpose of securing adequate prices for their products.

"The claim that the 'Black and Tan' constabulary is employed to apprehend criminals and prevent crime is proven a fallacy by the details of the scheme are investigated.

"Provisions for the mobilization of this force are the main features of the bill. Provision is made for riots in mobs which require the mobilization of a state force to cope with them. Provision is always made and act in very small groups and can best be dealt with by the members of permanently stationed in the various communities, who never have these communities, for the purpose of mobilizing at a great distance from their regular stations.

APPEAL TO GOVERNOR.

Washington, Jan. 1.—President Gompers has appealed to Governor Catts of Florida to protect labor unionists in that state against a reign of violence, which President Gompers wired the southern executive as follows:

"Dispatches reached me against ordering out of the city of Tampa a few hundred union men, and Heilmer, representative of the American Federation of Labor, by a virtual committee of bankers and merchants and their agents. I am also informed that the deportation of the striking cigar makers of Tampa, and residents of that city, have been threatened with deportation from Tampa. I appeal to you in the name of humanity and democracy to protect that you take every action possible to prevent so gross and violent a denial of American citizens' rights."

INCOMPETENTS IN MINES.

Pottsville, Pa., Jan. 1.—A committee of mine inspectors and workers has informed the county court that an organized traffic exists in certificates of competency to allow miners to work as skilled miners, and that hundreds of unskilled applicants are in the hands of inexperienced men who thereby endanger the lives of thousands of their fellow workers, particularly in gaseous mines.

The committee has asked the court to stop the practice and suggested that the new examining board, appointed by the court, be empowered to cancel all certificates held by men not entitled to them.

TRADE UNION WORK SHOPS.

Brussels, Belgium, Jan. 1.—To check high prices the government has established a number of work shops consisting of national costumes, and trade unions sent in an order to prevent profiteering by civil employes and exploiters. The government gave the order for the manufacture of 6,000 costumes. The unions will maintain their working conditions and also reduce the number of unemployed.

TO AMEND LABOR LAW.

Seattle, Jan. 1.—Representatives of employers and employed formed a committee in this city to recommend changes in the state industrial insurance act to the state legislature. The committee is an outstate federation of labor headed the workers' delegation. Members of the state industrial commission assisted the conferees.

FOOD EXPORTS GROW.

Washington, Jan. 1.—Food products to the value of $1,238,845,681 were exported from the United States during November. This is an increase over November, 1919, when exports totalled $133,457,186.

RENEW AGREEMENT.

Portland, Ore., Jan. 1.—Electrical Workers' union No. 125 has renewed its agreement with the local railway and light company.

CHURCH MEN ASSAIL "OPEN" SHOP POLICY

New York, Jan. 1.—The "open" shop is closed to members of labor unions and is an attempt to crush organized labor.

The above summarizes the views of the commission on church and special service of the Council of the Churches. "Christ in America on the present activity of anti-union employers. The council consists of 21 evangelical bodies, and has issued a statement voicing "the deep feeling of protest over the 'open' shop drive," which, it declares, is "thorough accord with the recent utterances of the National Catholic Welfare Council."

The relation between employers and workers throughout the United States" says the commission, "can seriously affected at this moment by a campaign which is being conducted for the 'open shop policy'—the so-called American plan of employment. These terms are used in being frequently used to designate practices that are definitely anti-union. Obviously, a shop of this kind is not an 'open' shop, but one closed against the employees of labor unions.

"We feel impelled to call public attention to the fact that a very wide-spread impression exists that the present 'open' shop campaign is inspired in many quarters by this antagonism to union labor. Many disinterested persons are convinced that an attempt is being made to destroy the organized labor movement. Any such attempt must be met by a public apprehension by fair-minded people."

OPPOSE COMPULSION.

Salem, Ore., Jan. 1.—"Doubtful value" is the opinion of the conference to compulsory arbitration laws in the Pacific coast, declaring that the state board of conciliation in his annual report.

"The application of force does not tend to allay distrust or promote peace," he says. "In so far as may be possible in all these issues which may arise, the spirit of free conference in which they approach from each side, through and to a medium dispassionate, sympathetic and anxious to serve, wherein judicial status, legal phraseology and technical terms are for the most part avoided, tends least to a point of agreement. It is the duty of the parties concerned in the questions at issue, as well as the body which may be called to decide, to present the questions raised, which proposed, in a spirit of good feeling.

"To be sure, witnesses are sworn, there is much documentary matter presented, the same forms observed as to courts which make for courtesy and dignity are observed, but the atmosphere is entirely unlike that of a court. But other than these, the hearings of the board of conciliation on all matters that have been brought before it have been characterized by an informality which has hastened final conclusion with a degree of resultant satisfaction, which is attested by the fact that rehearings have been asked for in but two instances."

STRIKERS ENJOINED.

Tampa, Fla., Jan. 1.—Federal Judge Call of Jacksonville has issued an injunction against 15 strikers, restraining them from committing murder, shooting and intimidating loyal men in the strike-breaking forces. The unionists present their case in court during the strike, and assure the manufacturers asked for the injunction that they would not violate it.

The manufacturers only recently threatened to deport union officials, and one newspaper has covertly suggested that their only hope is a mob or run out of town.

Another illustration of the "law-abiding" methods of the cigar manufacturers is shown in the action of the state attorney general to dissolve the Cigar Manufacturers' association from restraining production process. It was proved that the association would deprive the manufacturer of cigar boxes if he signs an agreement with the Cigar Makers' union.

NO COAL SCARCITY.

Washington, Jan. 1.—The alleged scarcity of coal last summer was due to a statement by Senator Calder, who is a member of the senate committee on interstate trade, that is probing the coal industry.

"Our committee has found that the senate and the house that more coal was moved on American railroads during the first six months of 1920 than ever before in the history of the country, and at the end of that time the cause of shortage was created."

Senator Calder's statement is interesting in view of the claims made by coal owners and the public press that the shortage is due to car shortage, strikes and refusal of the miners to work five days a week," causing a coal scarcity.

CARL LEGIEN IS DEAD.

New York, Jan. 1.—Cable dispatches from Berlin announce, the death of Carl Legien, president of the German Federation of Trade Unions. Deceased was 59 years of age. In 1913 he visited the United States and toured the country under the auspices of the A. F. of L. He was one of the founders of International Trade Union Secretariat, which later developed into the International Federation of Trade Unions. He was president of this organization when the world war started.

POLICE CHIEF ARBITRATES.

Chicago, Jan. 1.—Chief of Police Fitzmorris has been appointed arbitrator in the dispute between the Flat Janitors' union and apartment house owners, which has caused hardware increases and doubt flying quarters. The owners' agency would blister asbestos and the janitors began arranging for a strike, when the owners agreed to arbitrate.

PENALIZE COMPETENCY.

New York, Jan. 1.—At the building trust probe in this city the representative of one roofing concern testified that a combination was effected from membership is the roofing manufacturers' association. The plan guarantees its product for 10 years and other concerns guarantees theirs for two years.

RETAIL CLERKS ORGANIZE.

Crookston, Minn., Jan. 1.—Retail clerks employed here have organized as affiliate of the Retail Clerks' International Protective association.

CAN BEAT TARIFF LAWS.

Washington, Jan. 1.—In discussing proposed tariff legislation in the house of representatives, Congressman Griffin said:

"It is time to understand that there are certain lines of work in this country which have the will and the power to defy and break and check the operation of the laws of supply and demand; forces that can, by combination and secret agreements, create an artificial scarcity, holding back from the market the products of labor and thus defy the natural course of the stream of economics. People who voted for the Underwood tariff bill was passed, like force in the belief that they would immediately decrease. It should have shown an immediate response, but not on the country. Because it has, we should have been competitors regard imports to suit their own convenience, and entered into secret trade agreements to uphold prices. Imports were stored in warehouses or put in cold storage to be withheld from the market or ods out of the market to maintain high prices.

"When capital has such power as this the time for tariff tinkering is long past. From the time of Adam Smith, and that is a policy of national protection to industry against imports, with the constant view of maintaining a normal reasonable profit, the philosophy and theory of tariff schedules must be abandoned."

MUST FACE IMMIGRATION.

Milwaukee, Jan. 1.—"Unless there is a place where the immigrant fits he is a problem and a menace to producer, he will not only become a burden but will upset our industrial conditions," says the Milwaukee Journal.

"Our old policies will not meet the immigration situation created by the war. However much America may desire to help the victims of the oppressed of all nations it must best be dealt with. The demand for is large enough for an unlimited asylum. Unless the United States can provide room for these people political and industrial life it is assuming a grave responsibility and it is injuring, not helping, the immigrant.

"We now now that Americanization of the immigrant is absolutely necessary. Our existence depends upon it. Restriction and we know that Americanization is more difficult than we thought. The mind of the assimilation of the millions knocking at our doors now with all their problems seems indeed in its possibilities."

BLAMED FOR STRIKE RIOT.

Denver, Jan. 1.—The street car company has been ordered to pay damages to Oscar Hiltrop, who was beaten by guards employed by imported strikebreakers during the strike last summer.

A police sergeant testified that he was in the car barn when the strike breakers arrived. Hiltrop was standing outside the car barns and ran when he heard the order. The sergeant said the street car company offered no defense.

Charles Stanton, city, representing all creeds, recently probed this strike and the rioting that broke out on the company. The report stated that the strikebreakers were armed with guns found in the barns.

RAIL STRIKE IN NORWAY.

Christiania, Jan. 1.—Refusal of the government to accept voluntary arbitration to adjust grievances caused a strike on the Norwegian state railroads. The strike is complete and comprises all workers except locomotive engineers. It is estimated that more than 12,000 employes are directly affected. The strikers are distributed among three organizations, two of which are affiliated with the Norwegian Federation of Trade Unions. The government is maintaining mail service with the aid of non-union workers.

INSIST ON UNIONISM.

Paris, France, Jan. 1.—At a conference of civil employes, union workers pledged their adherence to trade unionism, despite contrary decrees of government officials. These employes declared that nothing can separate them from their fellow workers and that they will remain with the A. F. of L. Confederation and will uphold the trade union movement in carrying out its program of social reconstruction.

"THIRD DEGREE" ILLEGAL.

Springfield, Ill., Jan. 1.—The state supreme court has reversed the sentence of a Chicago man who was convicted on statements he made as the result of the "third degree" methods and ordered a new trial.

CARPENTERS WANT MORE.

Hamilton, Ontario, Jan. 1.—Organized carpenters in this district have notified contractors that wages will be advanced from 80 cents an hour to $1, effective May 1.

PLASTERERS GAIN.

Harrisburg, Pa., Jan. 1.—Through arbitration organized plasterers have raised wages 12½ cents an hour.

OPINION "MOLDER" IS BLIND TO FACTS

Washington, Jan 1.—There are few literate Americans so poorly informed, or who, as President Gompers, in American Federationist, correctly says, on the charge made by Frank Munsey, eastern newspaper publisher, that "the growing menace of our country" are "organized labor, bolshevism, socialism and I. W. W-ism."

"It is almost impossible to deal with such utterances in a spirit of fairness," he says. President Gompers. "It is difficult to restrict the use of the only language that could possibly make an impression on a mind so enfeebled to truth and so blind to all the great facts of the hour.

"Mr. Munsey's misstatements are so glaring and so bold that one wonders whether he is merely deceiving others or whether he is only deceiving himself.

"Does he think he actually believes American trade unionism, bolshevism, socialism and I. W. W-ism to be identical? Can it be that he is so profoundly ignorant of the difference between the constructive and evolutionary philosophy of the American trade union movement and the revolutionary and destructive theories of fantastic aggregations which are coupled in his mind with organized labor?

"We are not at least so know that if these are the views of Mr. Munsey, there are believe Americans who are so poorly informed, and still fewer who make a public display of their lack of information.

"Perhaps the best that is the case, it may be as well to let the public be the judge, merely adding here and now that organized labor has served his niche alongside the niches occupied by Gary and the types of reactionary industrial autocrats who believe they have the mandate for operating the affairs of the wealth of the masses of our people.

"There is a philosophy in the spirit of freedom and justice not yet understood by Mr. Munsey and his prototypes."

RENEW AGREEMENT.

Rochester, N. Y., Jan. 1.—The Michaels Stern & Co. have renewed their agreement with the United Garment Workers of America and which is effective for the term of two years. "In so far as the best interests of the workers are concerned," says the union, "the relations between the firm and the union be continued."

"We are pleased these employers, "we encourage and advise our members to be prompt in the payment of their dues and to meet the needs of the organization and to take an active part in its deliberations, so that the union may truly represent the general attitude of the majority of our employers.

"We are confident that a representative meeting of the workers in which the great majority take an active interest, and through which the grievances and abuses may be fairly ascertained and expunged will be of great advantage, the good will and co-operation now existing between the firm and the union to the well-being of all concerned."

OUSTED FROM TENT COLONY.

Charleston, W. Va., Jan. 1.—The state health commissioner has noted that the miners' tent colony in the Kanawha district unsanitary, must be vacated as soon as possible. The order was issued by Governor Cornwall, who never absolute interest, in the wretched conditions in mining camps, but who has been tempted to remedy through compulsion. Many workers were forced to strike because they were being discharged for joining the union, and the state attorney general's office has been swamped with appeals from evicted miners from the land on which the houses stand. The evidently a quicker way was discovered to smash the colony and again throw the miners and their families on the roadside.

THE USUAL STORY.

Boston, Jan. 1.—Policemen who replaced striking policemen have established unenviable records, according to the annual report of Police Commissioner Curtis. This official declares that the hiring of the recent effort of policemen to improve conditions, the disbanding of the police organization, and when they affiliated with the A. F. of L. the character of labor hires left. As a last resort the police struck, and the Boston Committee of Fifty acknowledges that eight times more property was reported stolen last year than in the year 1918, and 73 policemen were found guilty of various charges and 19 dismissed or resigned. Of the latter number 51 quit while charges were pending against them.

ALIEN LAND LAW IN FORCE.

Sacramento, Cal., Jan. 1.—California's anti-Japanese alien land law, an initiative act approved at the general election of 1920, went into effect.

It withdraws the three-year agitation of the Japanese question, and aliens ineligible to citizenship and seeks to close loopholes in the law of 1913 through which Japanese were charged with controlling land in control of farm land in this state.

PRINTING TRADES GAIN.

New York, Jan. 1.—Wage increases through arbitration have been secured by several thousand workers in the newspaper printing shops in this city. Printers and pressmen are advanced $5 a week, proof readers and job pressmen, $4; job feeders, sheet straightmen, paper handlers and boys, $3, and bindery women, $2.50 a week.

HUGH PROFITS IN SIGHT.

Philadelphia, Jan. 1.—Financial interests say that the Pacific Oil company, which has taken over the Pacific Fields oil interests in California, will start business with a prospective net income of $12,500,000 for the first year. This estimate is declared to be the minimum.

WIRE MEN RAISE WAGES.

Providence, R. I., Jan. 1.—Electrical workers in this city have been granted wage increases from 80 cents an hour to $1.10.